2008-04477

MEDIA RELEASE

401 FIRST STREET SE | MEDICINE HAT, AB | T1A 8W2 | 403.502.8580

ESPLANADE
ARTS & HERITAGE CENTRE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 7, 2008

POPULAR ANNUAL EXHIBITION SHOWCASES LOCAL STUDENTS
School Art 2008
April 5 – May 25, 2008

Medicine Hat – The Esplanade Art Gallery presents ***School Art 2008*** – on display in the Art Gallery April 5 – May 25.

School Art 2008 features hundreds of artworks that represent a range of drawing, painting, photography, digital animation, sculpture, and mixed media by students from 43 schools in Medicine Hat and surrounding area.

Part of the Esplanade's purpose is to foster the development of art and culture in our community which is why the Art Gallery takes special care to showcase the work of Medicine Hat's local emerging artists, from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

"When students see their artwork up on the walls of the Esplanade Art Gallery next to their name, they feel a sense of accomplishment and pride that we hope will encourage them to continue making art in the future," says Joanne Marion, Curator of Art at the Esplanade Art Gallery.

Throughout March, 15 volunteer jurors with experience in the visual art field visited Medicine Hat and area schools to choose over 800 pieces for ***School Art 2008***.

Public Reception: Sunday, April 20 @ 1 p.m.
A free public reception for the exhibition will be held Sunday, April 20 at 1 p.m. in the Esplanade's Main Lobby with the Awards Ceremony in the Main Theatre at 1:30 p.m.

Almost 50 students will receive awards sponsored by local school districts, individuals or groups within the community, the Esplanade Art Gallery, and more.

This exhibition is generously supported by Medicine Hat Catholic Separate Regional Division which donated refreshments for the reception, and Medicine Hat School District #76 which provided presentation materials for the exhibition.

— 30 —

For further information, please contact:

Joanne Marion
Curator of Art
Esplanade Art Gallery
403.502.8583
joamar@medicinehat.ca

Terra Rogowski
Cultural Promotions Assistant
City of Medicine Hat
403.502.8786
terrog@medicinehat.ca

A facility of Medicine Hat The Gas City

Alberta's TOP 35 EMPLOYERS 2008